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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

BARBARA R. EDWARDS, M.D.
LICENSE NO. 25MA07632100

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action
CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (the ABoard©) upon receipt of information that Barbara R. Edwards, M.D., License No. 25MA07632100 (ARespondent©) was engaged in conduct in violation of the rules and/or regulations governing the practice of medicine in the State of New Jersey.

Based upon its investigation, including an interview of Respondent by the Division of Consumer Affairs’ Enforcement Bureau, her sworn written statements and testimony before a Committee of the Board, the Board finds that Respondent engaged in professional misconduct in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and a violation of the regulations governing the practice of
medicine in New Jersey, N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h) (specifically, the failure to appropriately terminate the patient-physician relationship in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.3(c)).

In agreeing to the terms of this Consent Order the Board considered several mitigating factors including Respondent’s admission of her misconduct to her employer and the Board; her attendance and successful completion of the ProBe course on medical ethics and boundaries; and her obtaining and continuing with counseling related to the conduct described above.

The Board and Respondent have agreed to the entry of this Consent Order to resolve this matter. The Board has considered the matter, and finds that the entry of this Order will adequately protect the public interest, and for good cause shown,

IT IS on this 23rd day of March, 2017

HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Respondent=s license to practice medicine and surgery in New Jersey is suspended for one (1) year. The first month of that suspension shall be served as a period of active suspension from practice with the remaining eleven (11) months stayed and served as a period of probation. As Respondent has already served a one month active suspension and eleven months of probation following disciplinary action taken by her employer, the Board shall consider the suspension and probationary portion of this Consent Order completed. Thus, the status of Dr. Edwards’ New Jersey medical license is unrestricted.

2. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of $5,000 and costs in the amount of $9,699.64 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.

3. Respondent shall pay the total amount of penalties and costs in the amount of $14,699.64 within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Consent Order. Said payment shall be via
bank or certified check, wire transfer, or money order made payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and forwarded to William Roeder, Executive Director, New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners, 140 East Front Street, P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183. Any payment in a form other than those noted in this Paragraph will be rejected and returned to the sender. The Board reserves the right to file a Certificate of Debt in the event payment is not submitted within the above-referenced time frame.

4. Respondent shall comply with the “Directives Applicable to any Medical Board Licensee who is Disciplined or whose Surrender of Licensure or Cessation of Practice has been Ordered or agreed upon”, which is attached hereto as “Exhibit 1” and made a part hereof.

5. The parties hereby stipulate that entry of this Order is without prejudice to further action by this Board, the Attorney General, the Drug Control Unit, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs or any other law enforcement entities resulting from Respondent's conduct prior or subsequent to entry of this Order.

6. Respondent has been specifically informed that she may consult an attorney to represent her in this matter. Respondent acknowledges that she has been advised of the ability to consult with counsel and that she chooses to voluntarily enter into this Consent Order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: ____________________________
    George Scott, D.O.
    President

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I have read the within Order, understand its terms and agree to be bound by them. I consent to entry of the Order by the Board of Medical Examiners.

Barbara R. Edwards, M.D.

Consent as to the form and entry of this Order.

Dughi, Hewit & Domalewski, P.C.
Attorneys for Respondent

By: Michael J. Keating, Esq.

Dated: 3/5/17

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